

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 OPR-02 /012 W

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R 220705Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9914

INFO USIA WASHDC

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FOR CU/AF

USIA FOR IAA

EO 11652: DECON UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: AART, ZA

SUBJECT: BLACK AMERICAN ART EXHIBIT

1. HAVE BEEN VERY MUCH IMPRESSED BY APPEAL AND SUCCESS  
OF PAINSTAKINGLY SELECTED AND TASTEFULLY DISPLAYED COLLECTION  
OF BLAC AMERICAN ART WORK AT AMBASSADOR CARTER'S  
RESIDENCE IN DAR. IT EVIDENT FROM OUR EXAMINATION OF AND  
INVOLVEMENT IN EMERGENT THOUGH STILL RATHER BARREN  
ZAMBIAN CULTURAL SCENE, SIMILAR EXHIBIT IN ZAMBIA WOULD BE  
VERY SIGNIFICANT, WELCOME, AND EFFECTIVE STIMULUS TO THE  
ARTS HERE AND HELP SATISFY GROWING ZAMBIAN CURIOSITY ABOUT  
NATURE, FORCE, AND EXCELLENCE OF BLACK AMERICAN ARTISTIC  
ACHIEVEMENT.

2. RECOGNIZE VERY WELL ASSEMBLY OF GOOD  
REPRESENTATIVE COLLECTION POSES QUITE DIFFICULT PROBLEM  
AT BEST AND WILL TAKE SOME TIME, AS VALUE OF EFFORT  
IS PERFECTLY CLEAR.

3. WE NATURALLY OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
OF THOSE FAMILIAR WITH SUCH ENDEAVORS, BUT OUR CONSIDERATION  
OF THE FIELD OF POSSIBILITIES HAS LEAD TO COMPILATION OF  
FOLLOWING LIST OF ARTISTS WHOSE WORKS WOULD ADMIRABLY SERVE  
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OUR PURPOSES.

JACOB LAWRENCE	AUGUSTA SAVAGE
HENRY O. TANNER	WILLIAM JOHNSON
NORMAN LEWIS	WILLIAM EDMONDSON
RAYMOND SAUNDERS	CHARLES WHITE
DAVID DRISKELL	HALE WOODRAFF

4. ENVISION INITIAL EXHIBITION OF BLACK AMERICAN ART WORKS IN COUNTRY'S FOUR MAIN TOWNS (LUSAKA, KITWE, NDOLA, AND LIVINGSTONE). THEY WOULD THEN BE PLACED IN AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. WOULD SUBSEQUENTLY EXHIBIT AS ONE OF FEATURES IN CONNECTION WITH OPENING OF NEW USIS CENTER IN JULY 1975, AFTER WHICH WORKS WOULD BE RETURNED TO RESIDENCE.

5. VERY MUCH HOPE DEPARTMENT WILL URGENTLY CONSIDER EMBASSY'S PROPOSAL AND PROCEED WITH EFFORT TO COLLECT WORKS FOR OUR USE AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

6. REALIZE WHOLE PROCESS WILL TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME, BUT URGE AS INITIAL STEP SPECIAL ATTEMPT BE MADE TO SECURE THREE OR FOUR REPRESENTATIVE WORKS WHICH BLACK AMERICAN ART EXPERT STAG PROF. JAMES E. LEWIS COULD BRING WITH HIM FOR USE IN CONNECTION HIS VISIT HERE (STATE 22051, LUSAKA 196) AND FOR OUR SUBSEQUENT RETENTION.

NELSON

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